Revising Condition of TUFS

683. SHRIMATI N.P DURGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is proposing to revise the conditions of the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the revision;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Fouth Indian Mills Association is vehemently opposing the move of the revision; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) is a dynamic scheme and a large number of relaxations have been made in the scheme based on the feedback received from the industry in order to make the scheme industry friendly. However, at present this Ministry has no proposal to revise any condition of TUFS.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Circumstances leading to Suicide by Shobhini Rajan

684. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shobhini Rajan was the national rowing champion since 1997;

(b) under what circmsances she recently committed suicide;

(c) whether she was offered a job which was not given and the award of Rs. 1,00,000/- which was announced in 2002 was also not given; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that due to being neck-deep in debt and being injured, she knocked almost all doors for financial help which was not given forcing her to commit suicide?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) Late Ms. Shobhini Rajan has been a National champion in rowing since 1998.

(b) As the matter relates to suicide, outcome of the investigation may indicate the circumstances.

(c) the Government of India neither offered her a job nor announcd any cash award.

(d) Government of India did not receive any request from her for financial assistance.

Analysis of India's performance at Athens Olympics

685. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to analyze the causes which were responsible for dismal performance of our 75-strong contingent at the recent Olympics at Athens;

(b) whether it is lack of well-structured organizational support, or lack of discipline or lacklustre role of the foreign and Indian coaches, or non-professional men heading various sports bodies; and

(c) how Government propose to gear itself on all fronts right now so that in the coming Olympics our sportsmen are able to achieve better results?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) During Athens Olympic Games, Indian sportsperon, Major R. VS. Rathore won a Silver medal, the first medal won by an individual sportsperson since India's independence. Over the years, the performance of Indian sportspersons in Olympics has been improving.

After Athens Olympic Games 2004, meetings with office bearers of the major National Sports Federations were held to analyze their past performance and discuss their future plan of action for achieving excellence in international events. The Federations were advised to ensure transparency in selection and improvement in quality of training so that performance of the Indian sportspersons improve further in the forthcoming regional and international events.

(c) Government of India, in addition to providing sports infrastructure, is taking the following steps to improve the performance of sportspersons in the international games:-

(i) Finalization & implementation of Long Term Development Plans (LTDPs) for various sports disciplines in consultation with the concerned National Sports Federations, former international sportspersons and sports scientists experts.

(ii) Provisions of equipment and scientific support to sportspersons.